

Remarks:

This amendment is filed with a request for continued examination and is in response to the final Office Action dated October 5, 2007. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is amended to specify that the optical drive controller communicates at least in part over a write channel, which finds support in paragraph 16 of the application. Claim 8 is amended to specify that the WSR channel communicates read and write signals between the optical drive controller and the laser diode driver, which finds support in paragraph 25 of the application. Applicant adds claim 13, which finds support in paragraph 28 of the application.

The final Office Action rejects claims 1-9 and 11-12 over U.S. Patent No. 5,060,208 to Nagai, et al. As discussed in applicant's prior paper, the Nagai patent describes a magneto optical disk system, where the laser diode is turned on to heat an optical disk sufficiently so that an applied magnetic field can write the data onto the disk. This is well illustrated in FIG. 2 of the Nagai patent, which shows that the "modulated data" is provided on line 34 to the magnetic head drive circuit 10. No modulation of the laser diode signal is performed because that would interfere with the ability of the magnetic head to write data to the optical disk.

Applicant amends the pending claims to specify that the optical drive device uses a laser diode "to output a modulated light signal corresponding to data to be written to an optical disk." This does not occur in magneto optical disk system such as that described in the Nagai patent. No art of record suggests altering this aspect of the Nagai patent. Consequently, the present claims distinguish over the Nagai patent and the other art of record and are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

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If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (310) 785-4600 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

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